April 9, 2001

F. E. Thompson, Jr., M.D., MPH State Health Officer Mississippi State Department of Health 570 East Woodrow Wilson Post Office Box 1700 Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1700

Dear Dr. Thompson:

Please accept this letter as indication of my support for your "Healthy Childcare America 1000" grant application. Working together, child care providers and families can promote healthy development of Mississippi's children.

As conveyed in Rica Lewis-Payton's letter of April 4 to you, the Office of the Governor, Division of Medicaid is looking forward to working with the Department of Health on this grant. Among other things, the Division of Medicaid will support the grant in its efforts to conduct an assessment of the child care population to identify uninsured children and will provide outreach and enrollment activities in the Mississippi Health Benefits Program.

I am pleased to offer support for this project.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr